



**THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BINGHAMTON
STATE OF NEW YORK**

Date: September 9, 2015

Sponsored by Council Members: Rennia, Webb, Matzo, Motsavage, Berg, Mihalko, Papastrat

Introduced by Committee: Municipal and Public Affairs

RESOLUTION

entitled

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE HUNGER
FREE SUMMER KIDS ACT**

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Binghamton wishes to support the Hunger Free Summer for Kids Act of 2015 (S.1966); and

WHEREAS, the attached letter demonstrates City Council's support.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Council of the City of Binghamton, duly convened in regular session, does hereby:

RESOLVE that the City Council of the City of Binghamton supports the Hunger Free Summer for Kids Act of 2015 (S.1966); and be it further

RESOLVED that the attached letter, executed by all of the members of City Council, together with a copy of this Resolution embossed with the Seal of the City of Binghamton be forwarded to United States Senators Chuck Schumer and Kristen Gillibrand.

Introductory No. R15-92

Permanent No. R15-91

Sponsored by City Council Members:
Rennia, Webb, Matzo, Motsavage, Berg, Mihalko,
Papastrat

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE HUNGER FREE
SUMMER KIDS ACT

The within Resolution was adopted by the Council of
the City of Binghamton.

09 | 09 | 15
Date

[Signature]
City Clerk
9/9/15

Date Presented to Mayor

9/9/15
Date Approved
[Signature]
Mayor

	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Motsavage	✓			
Mihalko	✓			
Rennia	✓			
Webb	✓			
Papastrat	✓			
Matzo	✓			
Berg				✓
Total	6	0	0	1

☐ Code of the City of Binghamton

☒ Adopted ☐ Defeated

6 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Abstain 1 Absent

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy
of the legislation adopted by the Council
of the City of Binghamton at a meeting
held on 9-24-15. Approved by the
Mayor on 9 Sept 15.

Letter from NY groups to Gillibrand and Schumer encouraging support for Hunger Free Summer for Kids Act of 2015

Dear Senator Gillibrand,

As members of the City Council of the City of Binghamton, we encourage you to co-sponsor the Hunger Free Summer for Kids Act of 2015 (S.1966). This bill would make meaningful strides toward closing the summer child hunger gap by providing children living in communities currently underserved by the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) with nutritious meals during the summer.

As you know, the summer months are the hungriest time of year for low-income children. Last year, only 22 percent of children in Broome County who received free or reduced price lunch during the school year accessed a summer feeding program. This isn't good enough and we must do more to make sure low-income children are receiving the fuel they need to grow and thrive.

The summer meals program was designed to ensure low-income children have access to meals when school is out, but the program only reaches a fraction of eligible kids. Across the country, one-third of all low-income children live in communities not eligible to operate open summer meals sites. For millions of other children the barriers they face reaching summer feeding sites are insurmountable- lack of transportation, high crime areas, streets that are too dangerous for children to cross alone. In rural communities, where kids are dispersed over large distances, these barriers are particularly acute.

You showed great leadership on ending summer hunger by introducing the Summer Meals Act, which would reach more children by strengthen sites through strong policy improvements, including streamlining summer and afterschool meal programs. The Hunger Free Summer for Kids Act of 2015 would further strengthen SFSP and complement summer feeding sites by providing states with new program models to reach unserved children, such as summer EBT or non-congregate feeding programs. These options would be available in communities that do not qualify for open congregate feeding sites and certain others that face barriers operating a site. Summer EBT and non-congregate models have proven to be highly effective in reaching kids in hard to serve areas. Both of these models were tried and tested thanks to Congressional funding for demonstrations administered by USDA. Evaluations of the summer EBT demonstrations showed a more than 30 percent reduction in child hunger and non-congregate feeding demonstrations, including backpack meal programs and meal delivery options, reached children in rural and hard-to-reach communities who otherwise could not access a site.

The Hunger Free Summer for Kids Act of 2015 will ensure that no matter where our children live, they will have access to the nutrition they need to grow and thrive during the summer months. We urge you to continue your leadership on this issue in the Senate Agriculture Committee by encouraging a bi-partisan investment in summer meals that will strengthen programs where they work and reach new children currently not served by the program.

Closing the summer gap should be a top priority this year and we hope you will support including these important priorities as part of Child Nutrition Reauthorization. Thank you for your continued leadership in addressing child hunger in New York and across the nation.

Sincerely,

Dear Senator Schumer,

As members of the City Council of the City of Binghamton, we encourage you to co-sponsor the Hunger Free Summer for Kids Act of 2015 (S.1966). This bill would make meaningful strides toward closing the summer child hunger gap by providing children living in communities currently underserved by the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) with nutritious meals during the summer.

The summer months are the hungriest time of year for low-income children. Last year, only 22 percent of children in Broome County who received free or reduced price lunch during the school year accessed a summer feeding program. This isn't good enough and we must do more to make sure low-income children are receiving the fuel they need to grow and thrive.

The summer meals program was designed to ensure low-income children have access to meals when school is out, but the program only reaches a fraction of eligible kids. Across the country, one-third of all low-income children live in communities not eligible to operate open summer meals sites. For millions of other children the barriers they face reaching summer feeding sites are insurmountable- lack of transportation, high crime areas, streets that are too dangerous for children to cross alone. In rural communities, where kids are dispersed over large distances, these barriers are particularly acute.

The Hunger Free Summer for Kids Act of 2015 would further strengthen SFSP and complement current summer feeding sites by providing states with new program models to reach unserved children, such as summer EBT or non-congregate feeding programs. These options would be available in communities that do not qualify for open congregate feeding sites and certain others that face barriers operating a site. Summer EBT and non-congregate models have proven to be highly effective in reaching kids in hard to serve areas. Both of these models were tried and tested thanks to Congressional funding for demonstrations administered by USDA. Evaluations of the summer EBT demonstrations showed a more than 30 percent reduction in child hunger and non-congregate feeding demonstrations, including backpack meal programs and meal delivery options, reached children in rural and hard-to-reach communities who otherwise could not access a site. This bill is aimed to complement marker legislation that has already be introduced, such as the Summer Meals Act, that would make important strides to strengthen sites through strong policy improvements, including streamlining summer and afterschool meal programs.

The Hunger Free Summer for Kids Act of 2015 will ensure that no matter where our children live, they will have access to the nutrition they need to grow and thrive during the summer months. We urge you to support a bi-partisan investment in summer meals that will strengthen programs where they work and reach new children currently not served by the program. Closing the summer gap should be a top priority this year and we hope you will support including these important priorities as part of Child Nutrition Reauthorization.

Sincerely,
